

Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program

For many aspiring health care professionals, there are many hurdles. First there's the ever-increasing cost of professional school. Then there's the cost of maintaining a practice after graduation. Often, when all is said and done, many health care professionals in private practice find themselves spending more time running their business than actually practicing medicine. If you are a medical, dental or optometry student, pre-health care student or a practicing professional and are facing these issues, the Navy can help. You will become part of a skilled, well-equipped and established practice where you will get a chance to put your training to work. You'll work with top health care professionals from across the country. Your equipment and malpractice insurance are covered by the Navy, and you'll get the chance to teach, work on research or explore new fields of health care.

The Navy's many scholarship and financial benefits can help you manage the monetary hardships that usually accompany a costly health care education. Below are three of the programs the Navy has to offer:

- **Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP):** If you are an upper or lower classman in medical, dental or optometry school, the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP) can provide tuition assistance for up to four years of school and a monthly stipend paid directly to you of at least \$1,235. All required fees and expenses, books and equipment are paid by the Navy. The value of this program is estimated to be over \$200,000 or more over the course of a four year medical school program.
- **Financial Assistance Program (FAP):** Already in or planning on residency training? The Financial Assistance Program (FAP) can provide tuition assistance to include all required fees, books, equipment and expenses in addition to an annual extra payment of at least \$26,089, plus a monthly allowance of at least \$1,235 for physicians and dentists in certain specialties.
- **Nurse Candidate Program (NCP):** Provides a stipend for full-time students in accredited Bachelor of Science Nursing program. Students can enroll after their sophomore year and receive \$10,000 in two installments, plus \$1000 monthly for up to 24 months

The Navy encourages health care professionals to hone and expand their skills through meetings, workshops and additional schooling. In addition, there are the fringe benefits of a naval career: the chance to practice around the world, officer rank, plus 30 days paid vacation every year.. Without the stress of your own practice, you'll have more time for your private life.

Requirements are fairly straightforward: You must be a U.S. citizen under the age of 40 (although age limits can be waived), you must pass the Navy's physical fitness standards and you must complete certain minimum levels of training and education. Your time requirement will be at least three years of active duty depending on the program under which you receive your commission.

When it comes to advanced training, the Navy encourages its medical professionals to hone and expand their skills through meetings, workshops and additional schooling.

Plus there are the fringe benefits: the chance to practice around the world, officer rank, free and low-cost travel for you and your family, plus 30 days paid vacation every year to enjoy it.

Requirements are fairly straightforward: You must be a U.S. citizen 20 to 34 years of age, you must pass the Navy's physical standards and you must complete certain minimum levels of training and education. Your service obligation will be at least three years of active duty depending on the program under which you receive your commission.